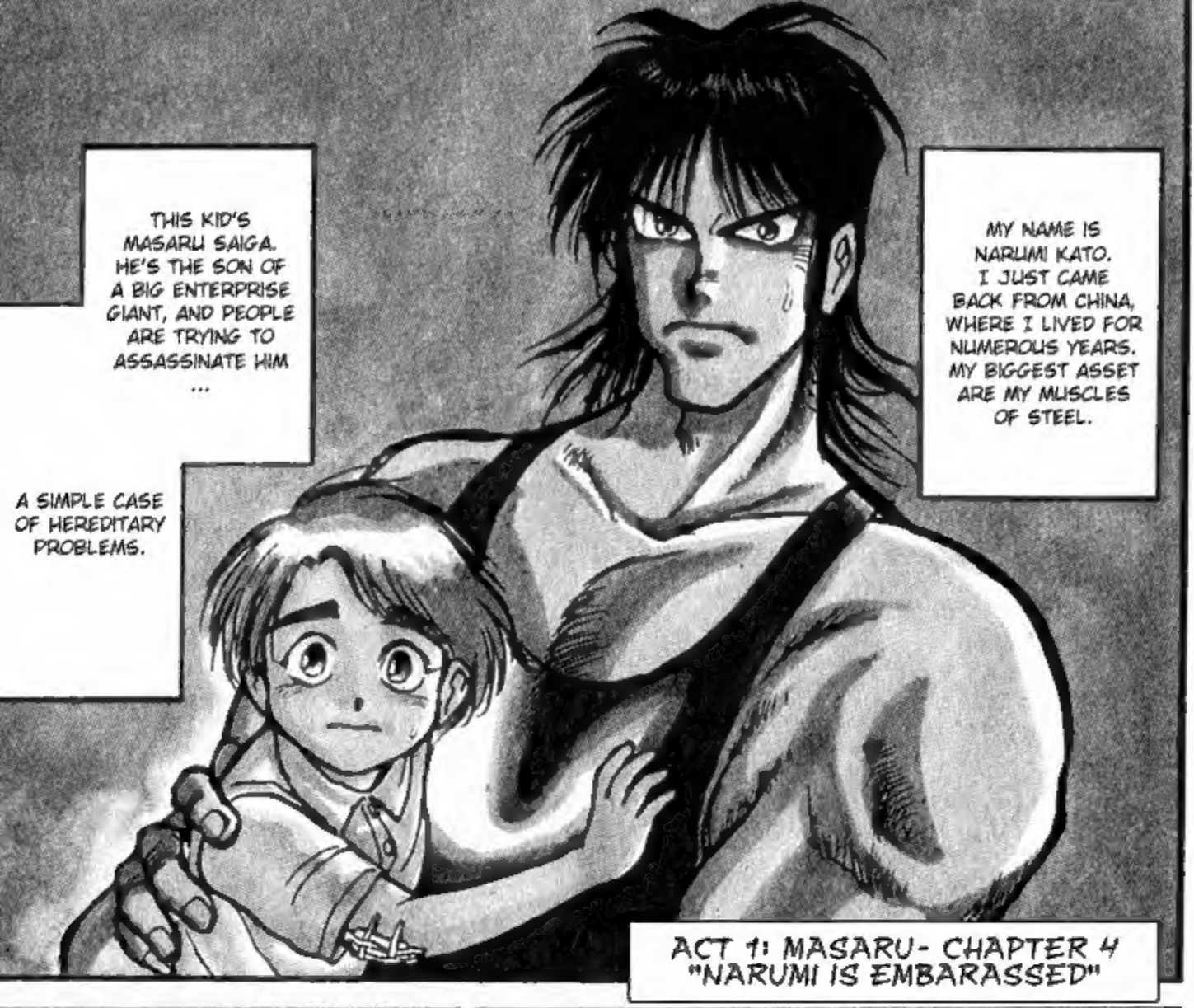
THIS KID'S MASARU SAIGA. HE'S THE SON OF A BIG ENTERPRISE GIANT, AND PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO ASSASSINATE HIM ...
A SIMPLE CASE OF HEREDITARY PROBLEMS.
MY NAME IS NARUMI KATO. I JUST CAME BACK FROM CHINA, WHERE I LIVED FOR NUMEROUS YEARS. MY BIGGEST ASSET ARE MY MUSCLES OF STEEL.

ACT 1: MASARU- CHAPTER 4 "NARUMI IS EMBARASSED"

THEY'RE MANIPULATED WITH VERY FINE AND VERY STRONG THREAD, AND THEY'RE A HUNDRED TIMES STRONGER AND FASTER THAN HUMANS ... ITS INCREDIBLE!
A GIRL HAD PROTECTED MASARU WITH HER OWN PUPPET ...

SCANNED BY VENSU
TRANSLATED BY KURAIZIE
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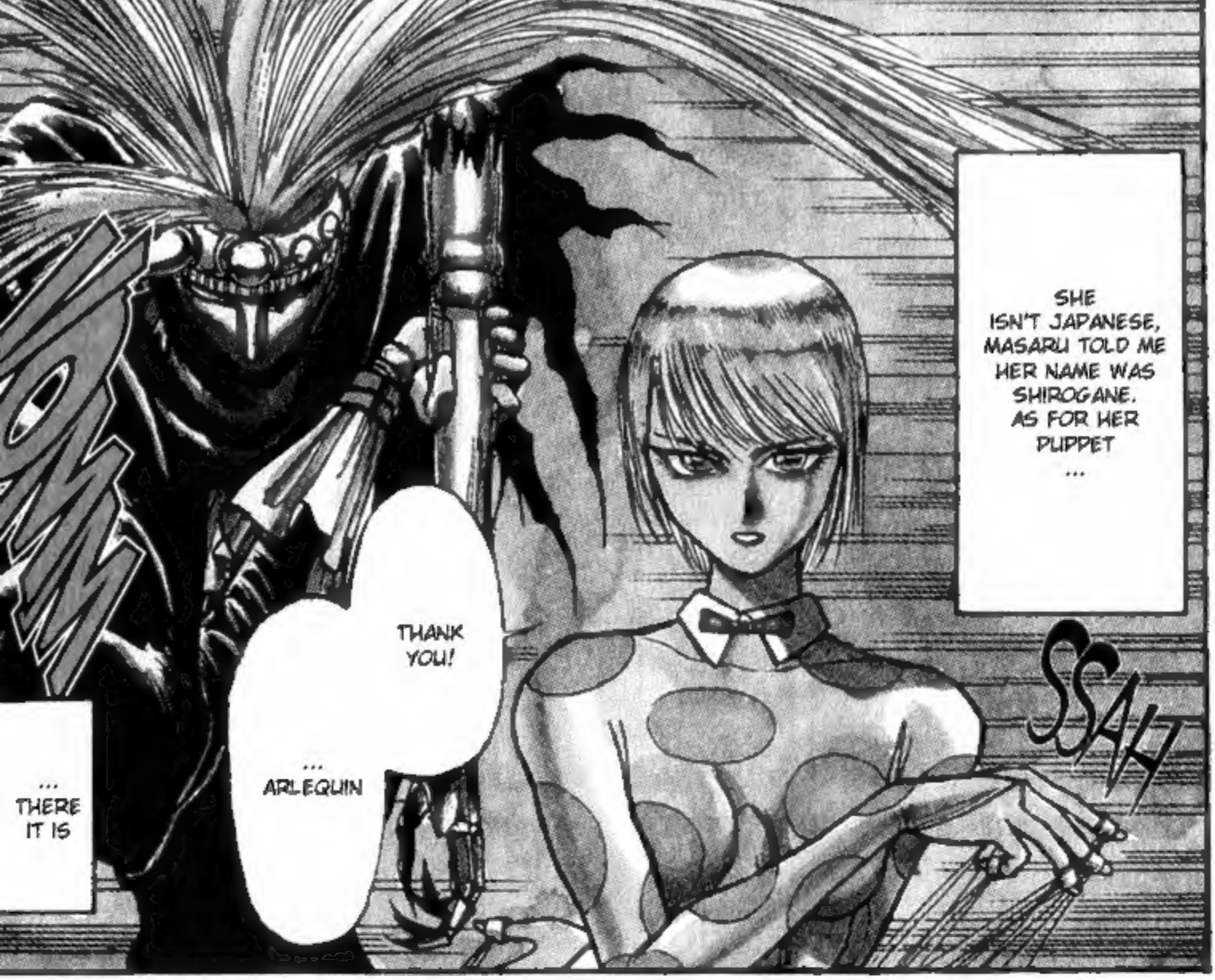
ACT1: MASARU
CHAPTER 4

"NARUMI IS EMBARRASSED"

...
SHE'S A SUPER CUTE BABE WHO FIGHTS LIKE A PRO!

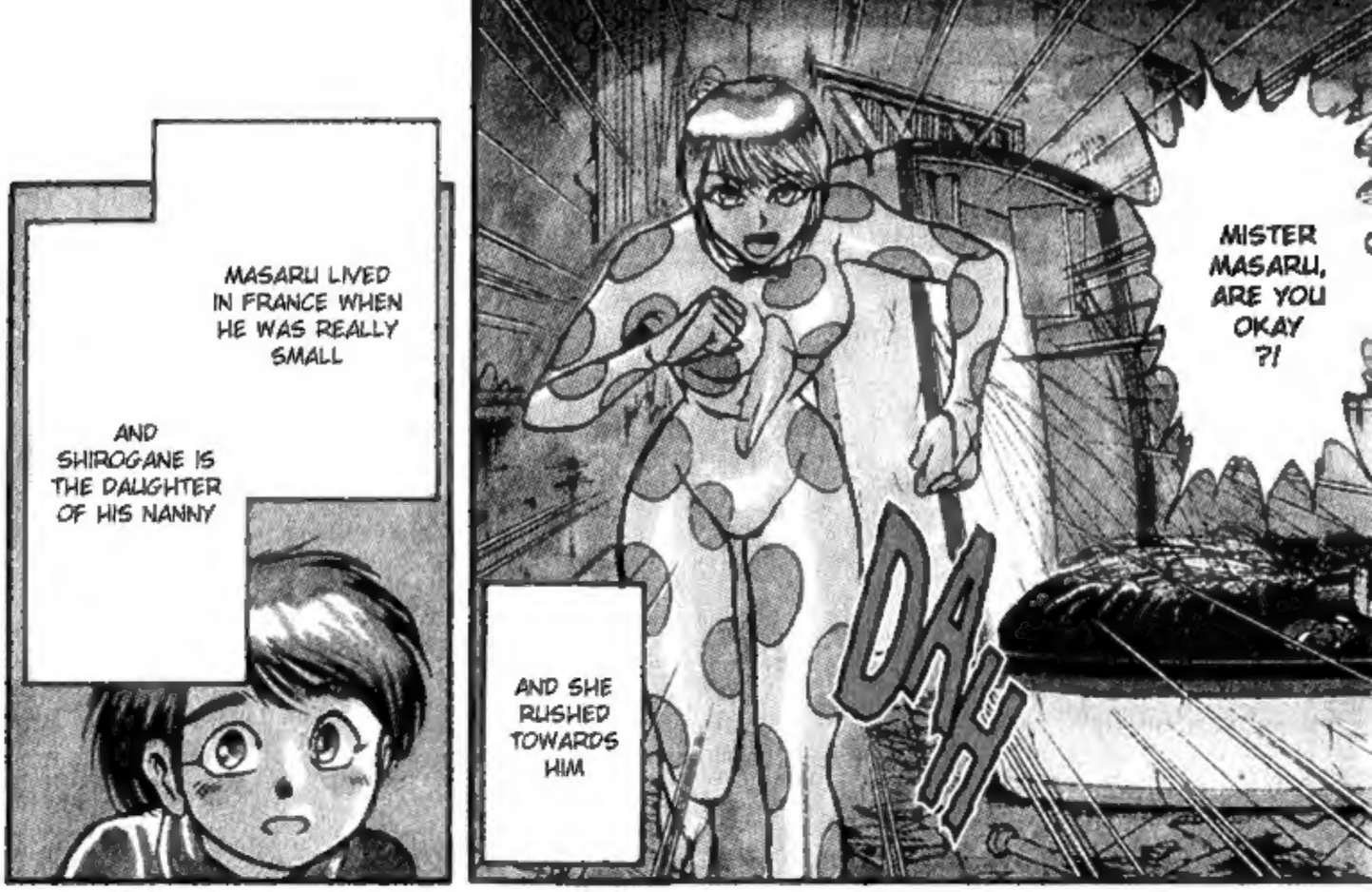

SHE ISN'T JAPANESE, MASARU TOLD ME HER NAME WAS SHIROGANE. AS FOR HER PUPPET ...
SSAH
THANK YOU!
... ARLEQUIN
... THERE IT IS

THIS GIRL, WHO'S APPARENTLY A STAR IN THE CIRCUS, HAD EASILY ARRANGED THIS IMMENSE PUPPET INTO A SUITCASE ...
SCHLAK

FACED WITH ALL THESE UNEXPECTED EVENTS, I THINK I'M AT THE POINT OF CRACKING.

AND MY LEG, A FRYING PAN ... ANYWAY, FORGET WHAT I JUST SAID

IT'S AS IF MY HAND BECAME A LADLE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF A FIGHT


MASARU LIVED IN FRANCE WHEN HE WAS REALLY SMALL
AND SHIROGANE IS THE DAUGHTER OF HIS NANNY
AND SHE RUSHED TOWARDS HIM
DAH
MISTER MASARU, ARE YOU OKAY ?!

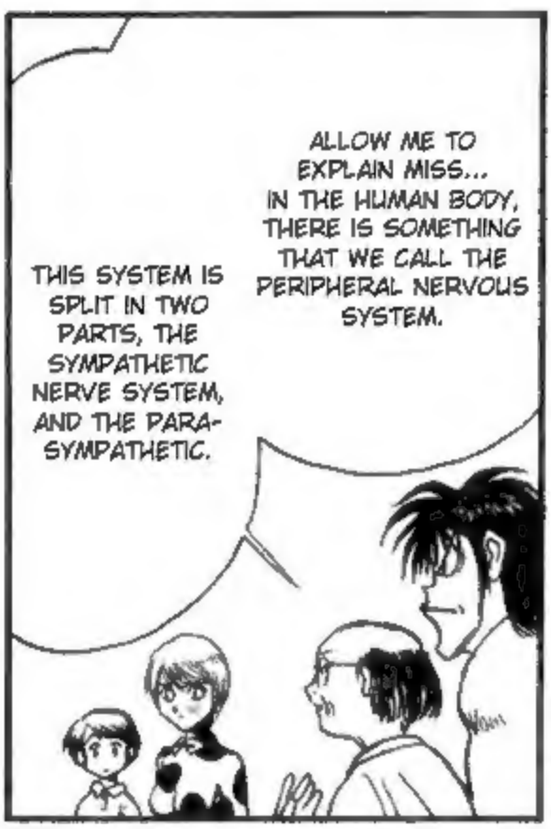
THIS IS WHY SHE FEELS SO OBLIGATED TO PERFORM HER MISSION: TO PROTECT MASARU WITH HER LIFE.
IT SEEMS THAT MASARU'S GRANDFATHER HAD DONE A LOT FOR HER AND HER MOTHER.

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT ... I SEEM TO HAVE MET SOME WEIRD PEOPLE.

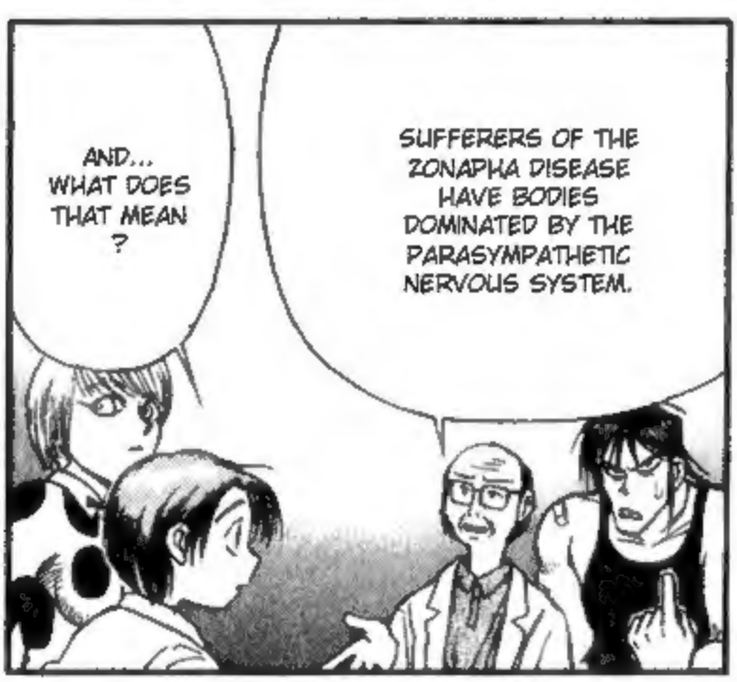
I'M SORRY ...
IT'S MY FAULT THAT EVERYTHING WAS BROKEN!
AT LEAST YOU WERE NOT HURT.
IT'S ALRIGHT.
IN THE TRAIN ...
AND IN THE CLINIC TOO ...
... EVERYTHING WAS DESTROYED.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE.
TO START ...
... YOU'LL STOP CRYING!
WHY
WHY
AND THEN ...
... YOU'RE GOING TO LAUGH!
AHH

SECOND, YOU'LL GO TO THE COPS AND ASK FOR HELP! THAT'S THE BEST SOLUTION
LISTEN TO ME! FIRST OF ALL, IF THOSE P EOPLE ARE INHUMANE ...
IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT!
BUT ...
BECAUSE OF ME ...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ?!
IF YOU DON'T LAUGH IMMEDIATELY, I'M GOING TO DIIEEE!
GAHH
AND... THIRDLY ...
A DISEASE ?
I HAVE THE SAME DISEASE AS MY GRANDFATHER!
YEAH DOC ... UNFORTUNATELY ...
NARUMI ... YOU AS WELL ?!

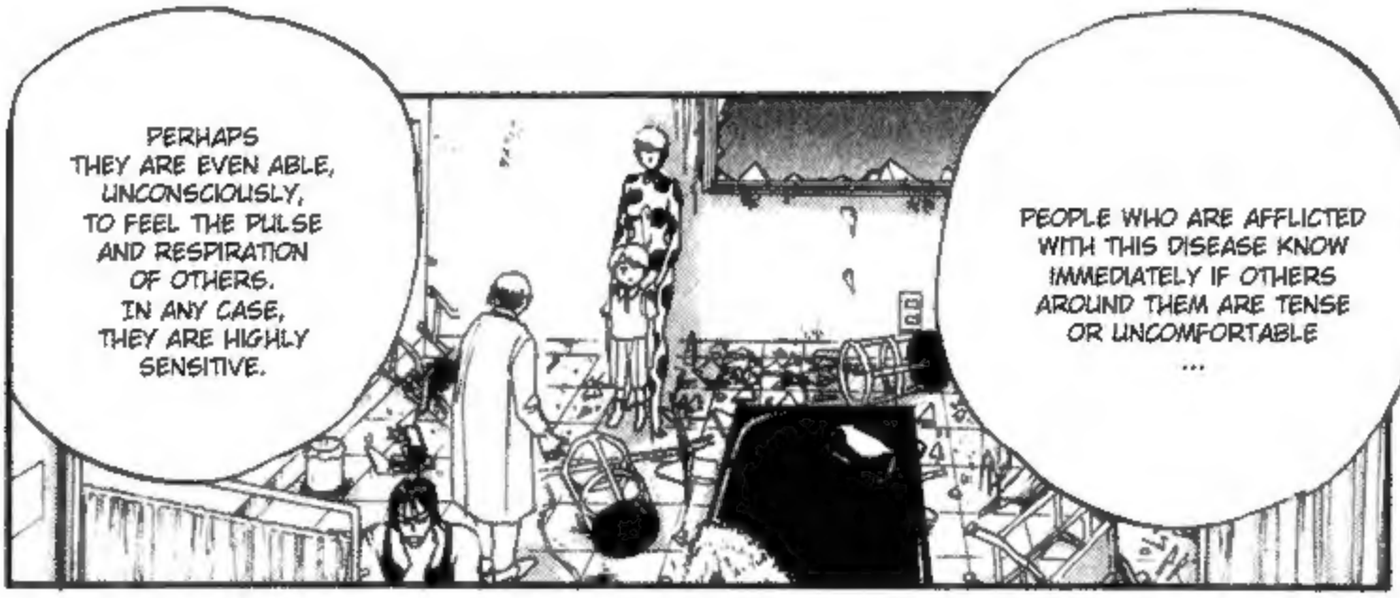
NO!
A SYNDROME THAT IS PROVOKED BY THE RECOGNITION OF THE SUPERIORITY OF THE PARASYMPATHETIC NERVES OF A THIRD PARTY ...
IT'S BETTER KNOWN AS THE "ZONAPHA SYNDROME".

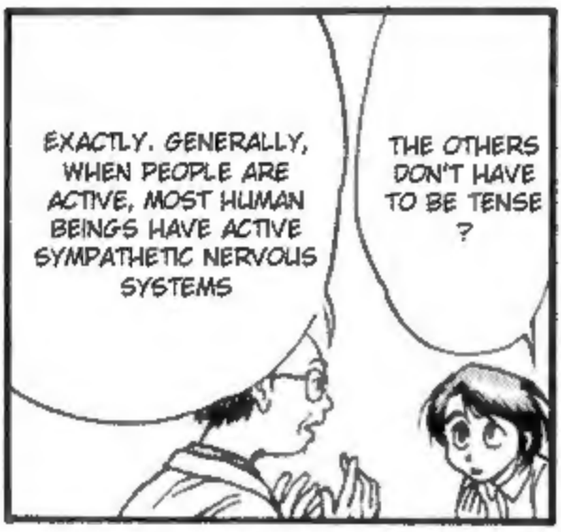

ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN MISS... IN THE HUMAN BODY, THERE IS SOMETHING THAT WE CALL THE PERIPHERAL NERVOUS SYSTEM.
THIS SYSTEM IS SPLIT IN TWO PARTS, THE SYMPATHETIC NERVE SYSTEM, AND THE PARA-SYMPATHETIC.

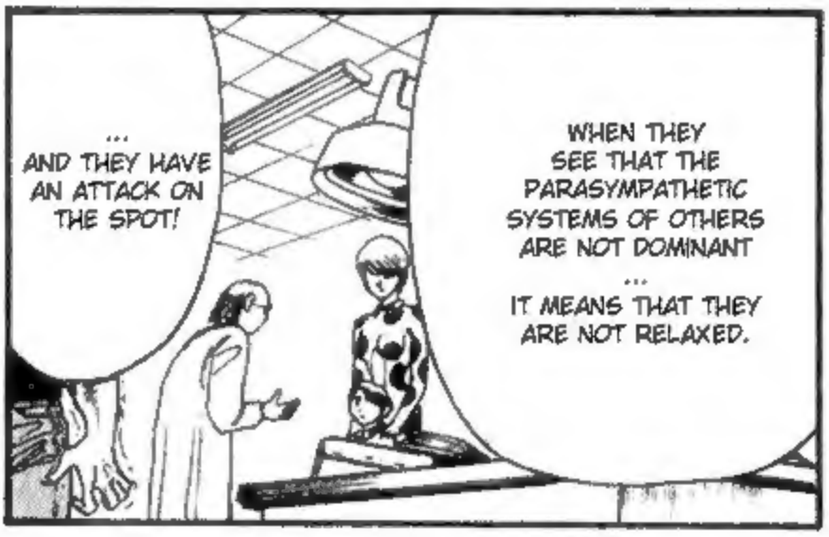
STOP! THIS DISEASE ISN'T CONTAGIOUS!
GALALA
SPLATCH
SPLATCH


AND... WHAT DOES THAT MEAN ?
SUFFERERS OF THE ZONAPHA DISEASE HAVE BODIES DOMINATED BY THE PARASYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM.

WHEN THE OTHER SYSTEM IS ACTIVE, WE ARE RELAXED.
WHEN THE FIRST SYSTEM IS DOMINANT, WE BECOME ACTIVE ...

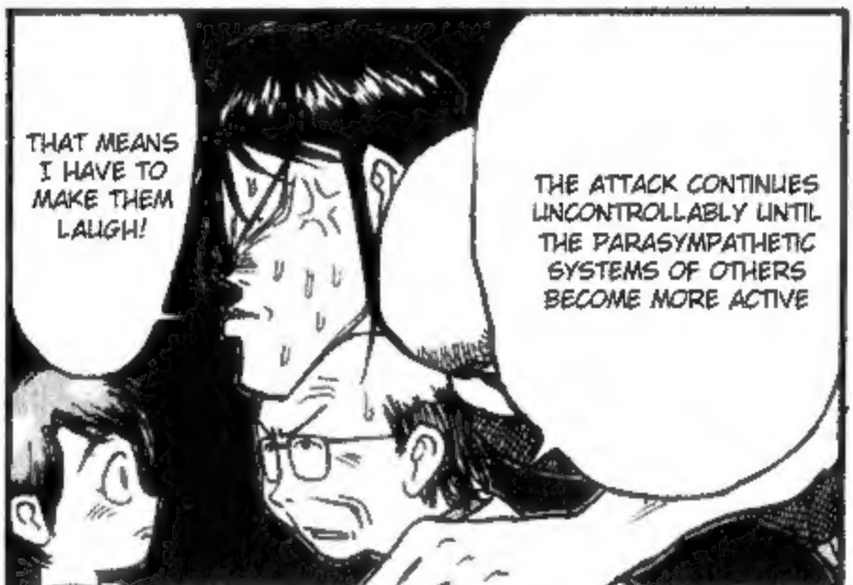

PERHAPS THEY ARE EVEN ABLE, UNCONSCIOUSLY, TO FEEL THE PULSE AND RESPIRATION OF OTHERS. IN ANY CASE, THEY ARE HIGHLY SENSITIVE.
PEOPLE WHO ARE AFFLICTED WITH THIS DISEASE KNOW IMMEDIATELY IF OTHERS AROUND THEM ARE TENSE OR UNCOMFORTABLE ...

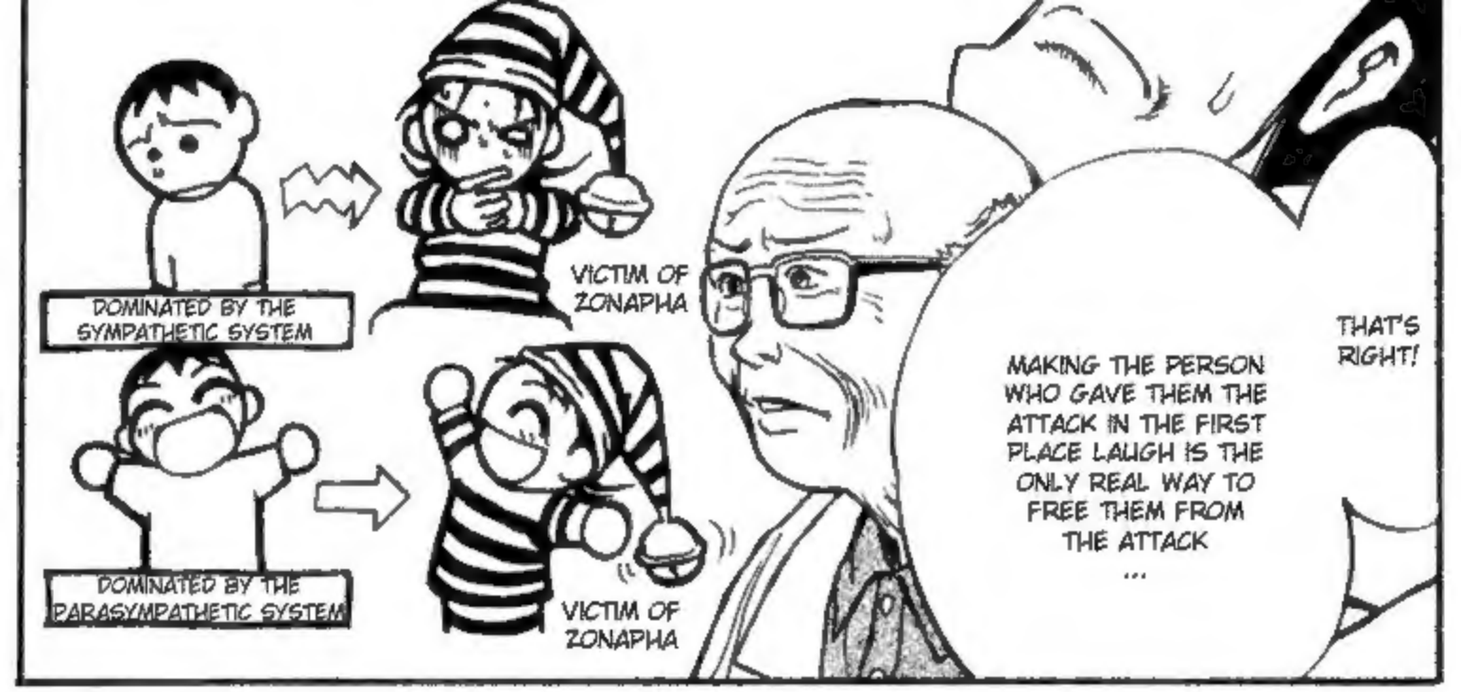

EXACTLY. GENERALLY, WHEN PEOPLE ARE ACTIVE, MOST HUMAN BEINGS HAVE ACTIVE SYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEMS
THE OTHERS DON'T HAVE TO BE TENSE ?

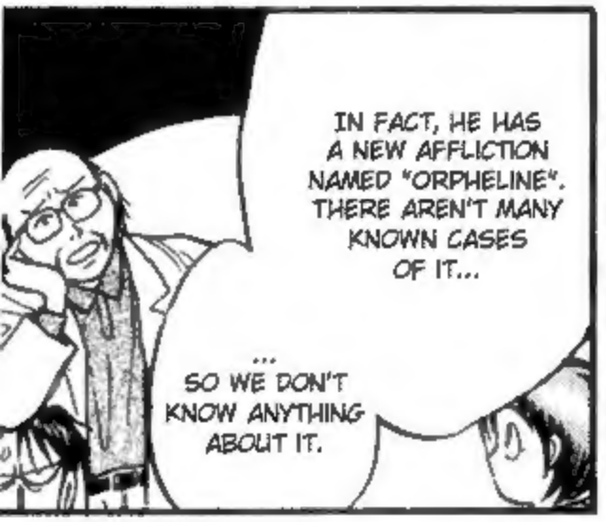

... AND THEY HAVE AN ATTACK ON THE SPOT!
WHEN THEY SEE THAT THE PARASYMPATHETIC SYSTEMS OF OTHERS ARE NOT DOMINANT ... IT MEANS THAT THEY ARE NOT RELAXED.

NO... I NEVER THOUGHT THAT ...
RRR
RRR
MASARU ... DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU THOUGHT I WAS MAKING THIS UP!
I REALLY AM SICK!

AFTER THAT, CONSIDERABLY PAIN SUFFUSES THEIR BODY.
DURING AN ATTACK, THE LUNGS OF THE DISEASED CONTRACT VIOLENTLY, AND IT PREVENTS THEIR BREATHING.


THAT MEANS I HAVE TO MAKE THEM LAUGH!
THE ATTACK CONTINUES UNCONTROLLABLY UNTIL THE PARASYMPATHETIC SYSTEMS OF OTHERS BECOME MORE ACTIVE


DOMINATED BY THE SYMPATHETIC SYSTEM
VICTIM OF ZONAPHA
DOMINATED BY THE PARASYMPATHETIC SYSTEM
VICTIM OF ZONAPHA
MAKING THE PERSON WHO GAVE THEM THE ATTACK IN THE FIRST PLACE LAUGH IS THE ONLY REAL WAY TO FREE THEM FROM THE ATTACK ...
THAT'S RIGHT!


IN FACT, HE HAS A NEW AFFLICTION NAMED "ORPHELINE". THERE AREN'T MANY KNOWN CASES OF IT...
... SO WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

THAT DOESN'T WORK ...
...OR SOMEONE WHO'S RELAXED ?
WHAT IF YOU LOOK AT SOMEONE WHO'S ALREADY LAUGHING ...

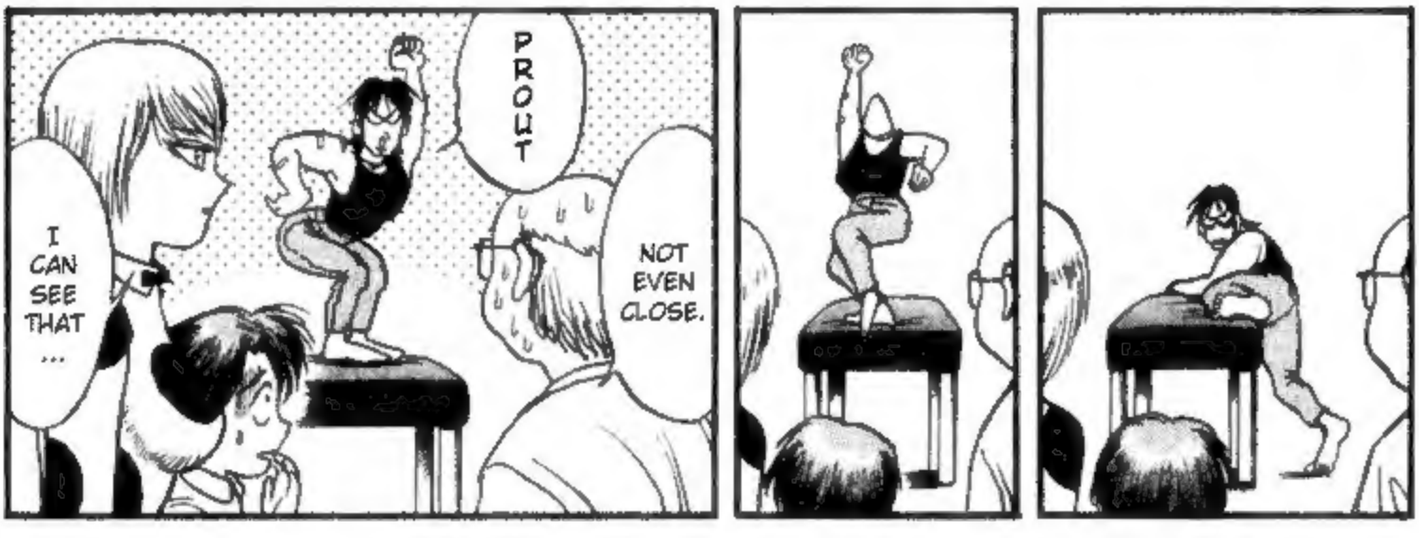
RRR

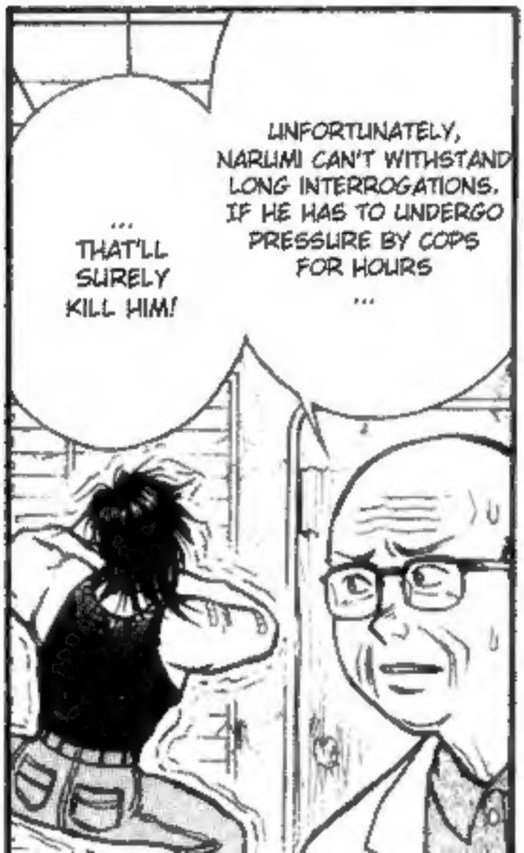
PLOP

... KENJIRO!
... YOU'RE HAVING ANOTHER ATTACK ?!

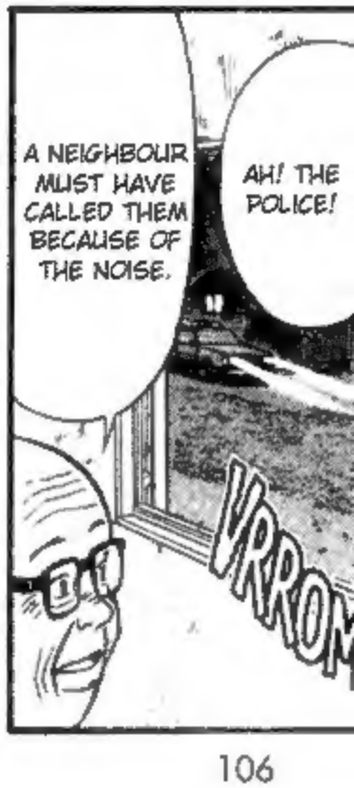
GAAHH... IT'S... GETTING... WORSE... AND WORSE ...
NARUMI'S GRANDFATHER AND I PLAYED MANY GAMES OF GO TOGETHER.

AH!
HIM
...
AND
...
NARUMI
?
HE WAS EXTREMELY TALENTED AT MAKING PEOPLE LAUGH.
AHAHAHA
HA


I CAN SEE THAT ...
PROUT
NOT EVEN CLOSE.


...
THAT'LL SURELY KILL HIM!
UNFORTUNATELY, NARUMI CAN'T WITHSTAND LONG INTERROGATIONS. IF HE HAS TO UNDERGO PRESSURE BY COPS FOR HOURS
...

I DON'T WANT TO KEEP CAUSING PROBLEMS FOR OTHERS
...
I THINK I'LL GO TELL MY STORY TO THE POLICE.

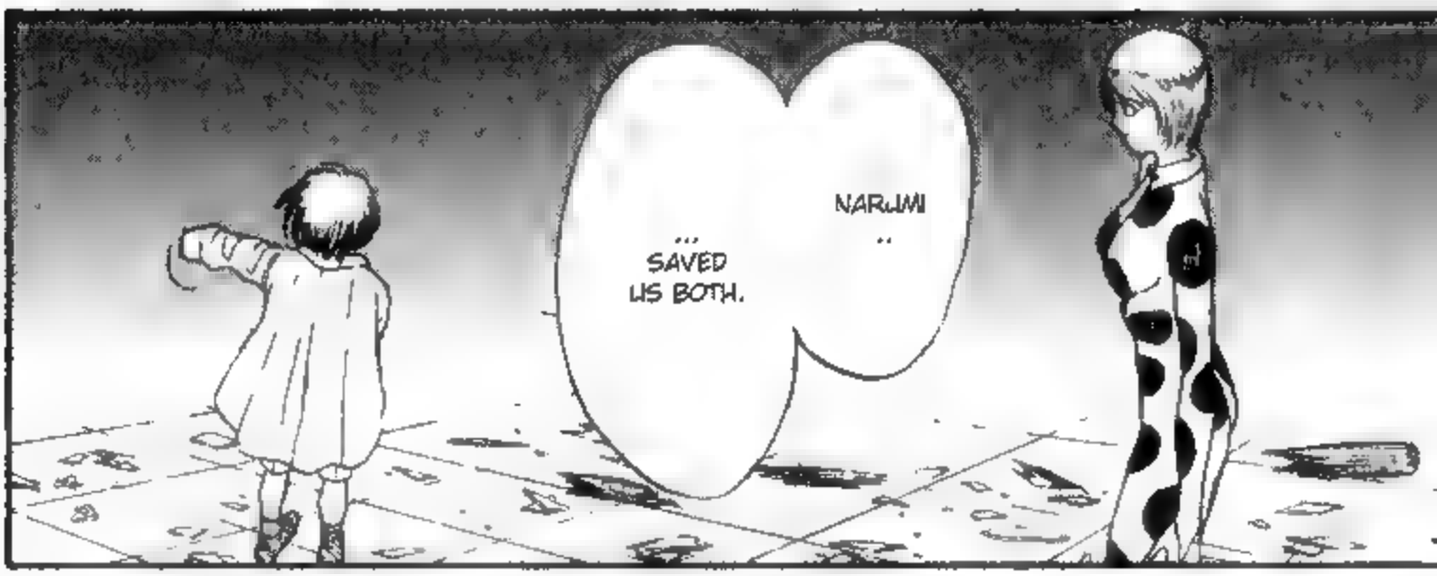

AH! THE POLICE!
A NEIGHBOUR MUST HAVE CALLED THEM BECAUSE OF THE NOISE.
VRROM

SORRY, BUT... I...
... I RARELY LAUGH.
IF THIS YOUNG MAN DOESN'T LAUGH ...
... MAYBE YOU CAN HELP HIM, MISS ?
NARUMI!
... THEY WEREN'T MUCH HELP FROM THE BEGINNING!
IN ANY CASE...
MISTER MASARU! WAIT!
NARUMI, I'M COMING WITH YOU!
DASH
IT BETTER ...
I'LL LEAVE YOU TO THE POLICE.
I'M GOING TO TRY ... TO MAKE SOME OTHER PEOPLE LAUGH ...
I'M GOING TO LEAVE NOW.
EXCUSE ME DOCTOR ...
WILL THAT WORK ?

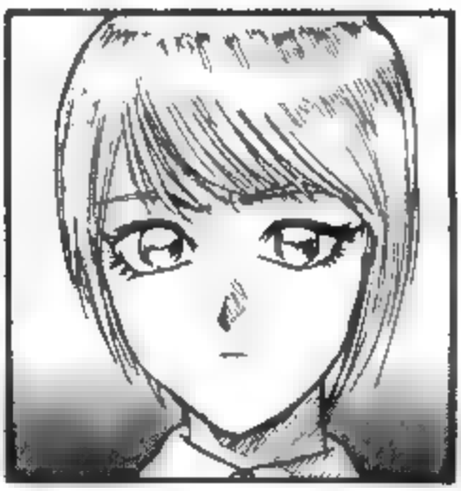
IN FACT ...
SAFE

IT'S OBVIOUS THAT WE HAVE MANY ENEMIES. MAYBE YOU SHOULD PUT YOURSELF UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE AUTHORITIES.

I'VE BROUGHT YOU ALL THE WAY HERE TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU WERE SAFE. I PROMISED TO PROTECT YOU AGAINST ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS!


NARUMI ..
... SAVED US BOTH.

IF SOMEONE DOES YOU A KIND DEED ...
... DON'T YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING FOR THEM AS WELL?

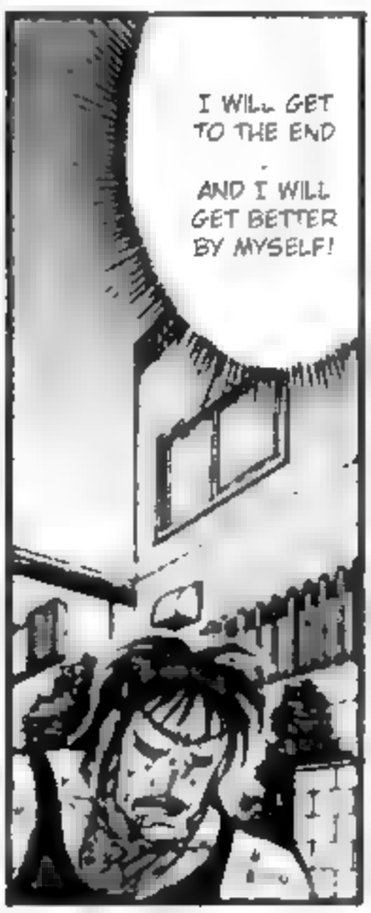


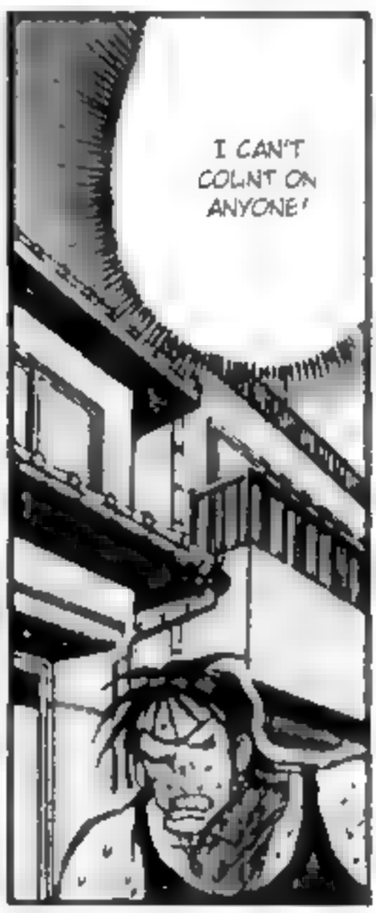
I'M NOT STRONG ...
BUT ...

MY PASS-WORD IS ...
UMM ... YEAH ... WELL ...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I HOPE WE'LL MEET EACH OTHER AGAIN.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR THIS MESS.
THANK YOU!
AH... YES!
LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!
WHAT?! YOU THINK THAT I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF THIS PROBLEM BY MYSELF?! YOU LITTLE BRAT!
GAH
IT WAS MY PLEASURE!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, DOCTOR ...
THIS BOY HAS SOME RARE QUALITIES ... LET HIM BE PROTECTED BY THE POLICE. HE DESERVES IT.
MISTER MASARU!
DAN

THAT YOUNG LADY . . AND THAT BOY . .
. . . ARE REALLY QUITE CHARMING.

AND NOW I HAVE A TERRIBLE MIGRAINE!
AHHH IT HURTS! IT FEELS LIKE AN ELEPHANT IS STOMPING ON MY CHEST!
ZOÏNG


I WILL GET TO THE END . AND I WILL GET BETTER BY MYSELF!

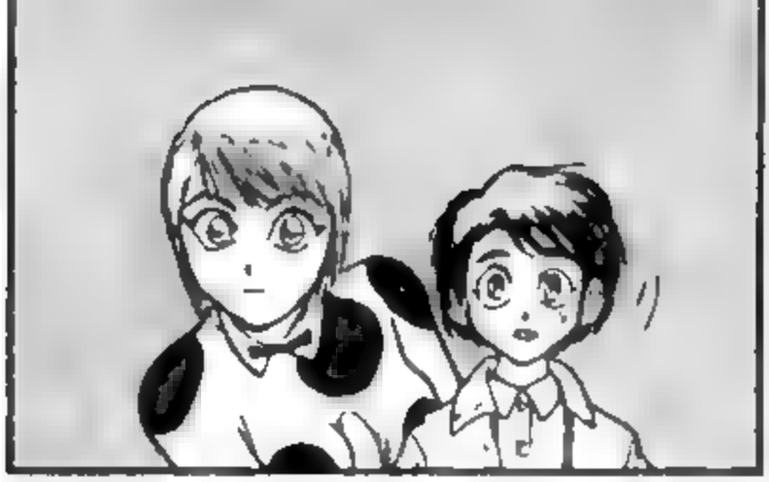

I CAN'T COUNT ON ANYONE!

HMM
HMM

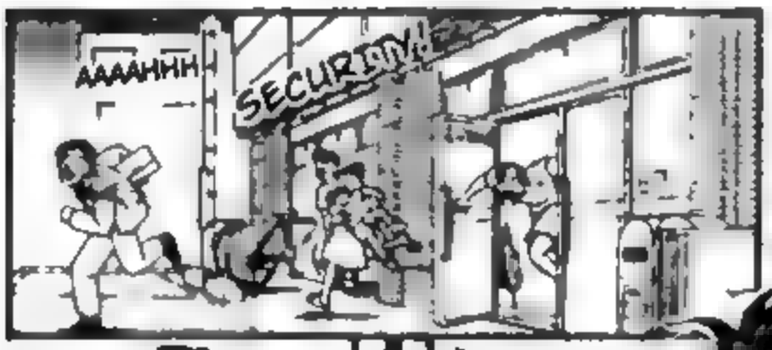
DAAHH
SUPERMARKET
ZE BEST
OPEN

I HAVE TO MAKE SOMEONE LAUGH
ANYBODY!
BUT IT'S ALREADY REALLY LATE AT LEAST 10PM! WHERE AM I GOING TO FIND PEOPLE ?

OOHHH
GOOD EVENING ...
CLAC
GO AHEAD! LAAUGGH!
SECURITY!
DOES THIS WANNA MAKE YOU LAUGH ?
HUH?
OR LIKE THIS?
IS IT FUNNIER LIKE THIS ?
THIS ?!



RUN
RUN
MISTER MASARU, YOU CAN'T RUN, OR ELSE YOUR WOUNDS WILL RE-OPEN!


AAAAHHH
SECURITY!

BLING
BAM
LAAUUGHH! I TELL YOUUU!

BOM

DO
OOH

HEH! HEH! HEH!
...
HA! HA!
...
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE FROM ME
...
NOW I'LL MAKE YOU LAUGH!
GO ON ...
TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT ME TO DO!
I'LL DO ANYTHING!
HUH?

IDIOT!
LAAAUUGGHH!

WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN THAT SKULL? A PEA? AIR?!
YOU'RE TERRORIZING THEM! DO YOU REALLY THINK THEY'RE GOING TO LAUGH ?!
SHIROGANE, ARE YOU MADE OF RUBBER ?
I WAS SUFFERING BADLY ... I WAS COMPLETELY OUT OF IT ...
MR. MASARU FOLLOWED YOU BECAUSE HE WAS WORRIED! AND YOU'RE HERE RIDICULING YOURSELF IN FRONT OF EVERYONE!
REALLY!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A MORON!
BUT ...
THERE ARE NO "BUTS"!

A STRAPPING MAN LIKE HIM, ACTING LIKE BRAT, LECTURED BY A GIRL ... IT'S COMEDIC!
THEY MIGHT'VE EVEN PLACED A HIDDEN CAMERA SOMEWHERE.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! THE GIRL'S WEARING A COSTUME.
THEY'RE STREET PERFORMERS, RIGHT? DOING IMPROV IN PUBLIC PLACES ...
THEY SCARED ME, THOSE TWO!
THAT DOESN'T INTEREST ME! AND KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, THAT'LL STOP YOU FROM SAYING IDIOTIC THINGS!
BUT... I SWEAR TO YOU!
PAAF!
AND YOU! DON'T LET YOUR GIRLFRIEND WALK ALL OVER YOU!
GO ON, MISS! HE DESERVES A LECTURE!
Hm!
HA HA HA HA

LISTEN ... I ...
YOU KNOW WHAT? I LIKE IT WHEN THE THREE OF US ARE TOGETHER!
PHEWFF ...
... SAVED!
YOU GUYS MAKE A GOOD TEAM!
MISTER MASARU ... I DON'T WANT A GUY LIKE HIM BESIDE ME!
MAYBE, BUT ...
IN ANY CASE ...
... YOU GUYS ARE FUNNY!